

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: KAZUHISA KADA, et al.  
Serial No.: --  
Filed: --  
Title: FIXED LENGTH DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS  
Examiner: --  
Group Art Unit: --

June 23, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to any Office Action on the merits, please amend the subject application as follows: